

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 02587 051306Z
ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01
DOE-15 /126 W

-----020601 051933Z /11

R 051143Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4175
INFO AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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USEEC

USMTN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, MTN, SW
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SUBJECT: EC/EFTA RULES OF ORIGIN

REF: STATE 158629

1. FOLLOWING IS LETTER RECEIVED FROM STAFFAN BURENSTAM
LINDER, MINISTER OF COMMERCE, REGARDING EC/EFTA RULES
OF ORIGIN.

2. BEGIN QUOTE: I AM FULLY AWARE OF THE US REQUEST TO SWEDEN IN THE MTN LAST NOVEMBER CONCERNING THE ADOPTION OF AN ALTERNATIVE 50 PERCENT VALUE RULE. THE ISSUE HAS BEEN DISCUSSED BETWEEN US AND SWEDISH (NORDIC) NEGOTIATORS IN GENEVA, WHERE OUR VIEWS IN THE MATTER HAVE BEEN EXPOSED. AS YOU KNOW SWEDEN HAS A STRONG INTEREST IN A LIBERALIZATION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE. RULES OF ORIGIN ARE, AS I SEE IT, ONE OF SEVERAL ELEMENTS IN THE MTN AND WILL BE CONSIDERED AND DEALT WITH IN THAT CONTEXT. I HAVE INFORMED OUR CHIEF NEGOTIATOR IN GENEVA THAT YOU HAVE BROUGHT THIS MATTER TO MY ATTENTION AND INSTRUCTED HIM TO KEEP ME IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE DEVELOPMENTS OF THIS ISSUE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

MAY I ADD, MR. AMBASSADOR, THAT SWEDEN, AS YOU OF COURSE REALIZE, IS NOT IN A POSITION TO CHANGE THE RULES OF ORIGIN ON A UNILATERAL BASIS. END QUOTE.

3. EMBASSY ALSO RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING ORAL COMMENT ON THIS SUBJECT FROM AN MFA OFFICIAL. SWEDEN LIKE OTHER MEMBERS OF EFTA IS, OF COURSE, COMMITTED BY ITS AGREEMENT WITH THE COMMON MARKET, AND ANY CHANGE OR NEW SOLUTION MUST BE SOUGHT IN COMMON. THE OFFICIAL THOUGHT THAT THE RULES OF ORIGIN HAVE INDEED, IN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CASE OF MANY PRODUCTS, BEEN TENDING IN THE DIRECTION WHICH THE US DESIRES. TEXTILES IS AN EXCEPTION AND IS LIKELY TO REMAIN SO. IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR SWEDEN TODAY TO APPLY A 50 PERCENT VALUE CRITERION ON TEXTILES. LASTLY, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF TEXTILES SWEDEN DOES TEND TO WISH TO SEE A 50 PERCENT VALUE CRITERION INTRODUCED.
KENNEDY-MINOTT

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NNN

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Litigation History:
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